

Action Agenda 1999-2004

What the Kentucky Commonwealth Virtual University Will Do To Advance Reform of Postsecondary Education

www.kcvu.org

(877) 740-4357 (toll free)

How can the KCVU help education providers reach potential students – especially adults with jobs and people who might not otherwise enroll in a college or university?

- By supplying the vehicle through which colleges and universities may offer courses and programs using state of the art telecommunications
- By offering a rational, predictable way for students to take courses with minimal barriers – a way that includes . . .

Affordable learning

Financial-aid applications and help in searching for scholarships

Round-the-clock help desk, bookstore, and library (Kentucky

Commonwealth Virtual Library: www.kcvl.org)

One-stop application and registration

One-stop account services

Consistent look and feel to courseware

Increased transferability of courses between institutions

Increased use of credit for previous learning

Dual credit for enrolled secondary students

Postsecondary options for high school students that allow districts to pay tuition

- By working with libraries, schools, churches, National Guard armories, grocery stores, recreation and community centers to provide work stations and Internet access at least within busing or walking distance of every Kentucky citizen
- By implementing a marketing strategy that stresses learning communities and honors individuals' unique talents
- By asking citizens what learning opportunities they need and want, and how best the KCVU can deliver them
- By developing creative ways to overcome the barriers of too little money, time, and mobility

How can the KCVU help enrich teaching and learning for all students?

- By employing best practices for distance learning as described by national accrediting agencies
- By requiring that multimedia be used effectively in courseware so that students manipulate concepts, become familiar with their best learning styles, and have options in each curriculum that increase their learning speed, breadth, and depth
- By undertaking a statewide development program to show faculty how best to teach online courses
- By identifying and using the best courseware from Kentucky institutions as well as publishers, multimedia companies, corporations, proprietary businesses and institutions outside Kentucky

How will the KCVU help providers deliver workforce training?

- By working closely with economic development agencies to identify needed curriculum
- By helping to customize training offered through KCVU
- By marketing the ability of Kentucky colleges and universities to react quickly to businesses' requests for entry-level and in-service training where and when employers and employees need it

How will the KCVU know whether it has done what it says it will do?

- More high school graduates going right to college: Measure the number of first-time high school graduates who take KCVU courses as a percentage of those entering Kentucky institutions directly.
- More adult students: Count the number of first-time and continuing KCVU students older than 22 and not directly registered at colleges or universities.
- More students overall – up to 2,000 by 2001 and as many as 5,000 by 2004: Count enrollments over time.
- Greater retention: Count the number of students either returning to the KCVU or enrolling directly at an institution.
- Faster completion of degree and certificate programs: Track time taken by students who have taken some or all of their courses through the KCVU and compare it with the time taken by students who took no KCVU courses.
- More graduates: Measure, as a percentage of students who took no courses through the KCVU, the number of people who complete certificate and degree programs by taking some or all of their courses through the KCVU.
- Increase in knowledge workers: Count the number of people who complete KCVU-offered technology courses.
- Improved efficiency in delivering courses: Track the number of self-sustaining certificate and degree programs provided through tuition revenues and existing general fund dollars, the number of KCVU courses and programs offered at current or lower tuition and fees, and the number of programs for which institutions share the cost of development and instruction.